

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 2000 LB 1349

that, so I won't embarrass myself. But in any case, we still don't know who is responsible or in charge, or we wouldn't have problems like we have with CHARTS and other programs as well. We're not quite sure where we're going. We've been...we all know we've had sanctions against us now because we did not have a responsible approach to this program. So simply put, what I'd like to do next year, and I'm serious, I will introduce legislation that will provide for a legislative oversight, just like we have with LB 309 on buildings, on information and technology. There will be some that will argue with you that we have this committee made up of professionals that are supposed to know what they're doing, for some reason or other we still have chaos. But you tell me, anybody here tell me who you think is in charge of this information and technology responsibility, not at the political level, but at the administrative level? And we can't. We have a lot of people trying, a lot of people want to, but we have so much interagency problems and jealousy in some ways, they want to do their thing in their way. It's terrible for us to take money and pool it so we can spend it, not know for sure how we're going to spend it or when we're going to spend it, but just to know that we're probably going to have to have something to spend. That is not a responsible policy for the state, or for business, or for you, personally, or anywhere else. So I don't want to kill this, I don't want to suggest to you that it should be killed. I hope there will be an indication of support regarding this, to point out to everybody and those in charge that we can't continue this kind of a thing to happen again next year. But I do want to point out to you, though, that we seem to, when money is necessary for other purposes, access the kind of funds we need for buildings. Nobody suggested we went after lottery money, for example, and I don't know why. But I do think as it applies to data systems, technology systems and information systems there should be a group of you people, not me, as you know I'm the only one here that doesn't have a laptop. I should tell you I don't have one because I can't put information on it. No, I don't have any, Ernie, I...I can't...I can only absorb so much information. And seriously, I can't put on that machine what I want to put on. I want to know what my constituents think about legislation. I know, if I put that information on my machine, all the rest of you will know who my constituents are who don't like or do like certain legislation. So it doesn't do me any good. As far as